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A Digest of Regulations Governing the

TRANSPORTATION OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Under the Poultry Products Inspection Act

AMS-406 / Revised May 1963
Prepared by
Inspection Branch

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Division
Washington, D.C.

A DIGEST OF REGULATIONS GOVERNING TRANSPORTATION OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS UNDER THE POULTRY PRODUCTS INSPECTION ACT

This publication summarizes briefly Federal regulations governing the transportation of poultry and poultry products under the Poultry Products Inspection Act of 1957, as amended.

It has been prepared to help transportation companies, poultry processors and retail food dealers understand the regulations and so to be better able to comply with them.

This leaflet is a revision of AMS-406, issued September 1960.

I. Definitions

Poultry means any live or slaughtered domesticated bird (chicken, turkey, duck, goose, or guinea).

Dressed poultry means poultry which has been slaughtered for human food with head, feet, and viscera intact and from which the blood and feathers have been removed, including New York dressed poultry.

Poultry product means any ready-to-cook poultry or any poultry food product.

Poultry food product means any human food product consisting of any edible part or parts of poultry in combination with other ingredients unless such human food product is exempted.

Commerce means commerce between any State or the District of Columbia, and any place outside thereof; or between points within the same State or the District of Columbia, but through any place outside thereof; or within the District of Columbia; and the term "State" includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Poultry products include fresh, frozen, smoked, cured, or cut-up eviscerated poultry, and any edible part thereof, and manufactured poultry products of all kinds, intended for human food and not exempted.

II. Articles Not Regulated

The following articles are not regulated under the Act and may be accepted by a transportation company for transportation in commerce upon identification.

1. Carcasses and portions of game birds (including pigeons and squabs); and
2. Any specimens of poultry and poultry products sent to or by the Department of Agriculture or branches thereof in Washington, D.C., or elsewhere, for laboratory examination, exhibition purposes, or other official use.
3. Exempted human food products containing poultry (See § 81.208 of regulations under the Act.) The shipper should furnish a certificate as shown in the Appendix.

III. Rules Governing Acceptance of Other Slaughtered Poultry and Products thereof for transportation.

Under the Act, the following articles usually are eligible for transportation in "commerce," and the transportation company would not be liable for accepting for such transportation articles bearing the marks or statements specified below, unless it knew or had reason to know the articles were in fact not eligible for such transportation:

A. Poultry products which have been inspected for wholesomeness by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the shipping containers of which bear the official mark of inspection as shown below:

B. Dressed poultry which has been processed at an official plant, the shipping containers of which

bear the official dressed poultry identification mark as shown below, and which is intended for transportation to:

1. An official plant.

2. A warehouse for storage for the official plant.

3. A foreign country.

DRESSED POULTRY

ELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING

In Official Establishments Under U.S.D.A. Inspection

Plant No. 000. **Lot 000**

C. Dressed poultry and poultry products processed by an exempted poultry producer, the shipping containers of which bear the producer's name and address and the statement "Exempted--P.P.I.A. 85-172."

D. Poultry products sold directly to consumers by an exempted retail dealer in the individual retail store, if the shipping containers bear the retail dealer's name and address and the statement "Exempted--P.P.I.A. 85-172."

E. Dressed poultry (or eviscerated poultry) which has been prepared in accordance with recognized religious dietary laws and the shipping containers of which are marked "Dressed Poultry (or Eviscerated Poultry if applicable)--Processed under USDA Exemption Permit No. _____ ," with the exemption number.

F. Inspected poultry products which have been removed from the original shipping containers by distributors or jobbers; provided the shipping container in which the products are to be transported is marked with the name and address of the distributor or jobber and bears, in the case of domestic product, the statement, "The poultry product contained herein was inspected by the U.S.D.A." (and, in the case of imported product, the statement, "The products contained herein have been approved for importation under P.P.I.A.")

G. Products of poultry not intended for use as human food, provided the containers bear the packer's name and address and the plant number of the official plant where they were packed, and provided the products are denatured or are marked "Not fit for human food" or are marked "Animal food."

H. Poultry feet and heads packed at an official plant for export for processing for human food, provided the containers bear the packer's name and address and the plant number of the official plant and are marked "Packed under Sanitary Supervision of USDA."

I. Imported poultry products, provided the shipping containers, or immediate containers, are marked "Approved for Import under PPIA" within a circle.

J. Imported dressed poultry consigned to an official plant, provided the shipping containers are marked "Dressed Poultry - Eligible For Processing Under USDA Inspection."

IV. Records

A. Transportation agencies shall maintain records showing the name or description of the products transported in "commerce," weight (indicating net or gross), number of shipping containers, date of receipts, name and address of shipper, name and address of consignee, date of arrival at destination, and name of the person accepting products for consignee.

B. When more than one transportation agency is used for any shipment, each such agency shall maintain such records to the extent it is concerned.

C. Transportation agencies shall, upon the request of a duly authorized representative of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, permit him at reasonable times to have access to and to copy all such records.

D. When a transportation agency maintains, subject to inspection, copies of bills of lading, shipping invoices, warehouse receipts, or similar documents which give the information required above, additional records are not required to be kept under the Act.

E. Any record required to be maintained shall be maintained for a period of two years after the transaction, which is the subject of such record, has taken place.

APPENDIX

The certification suggested to be prepared by the shipper of exempted human food products consisting in part of edible poultry is as follows:

> I hereby certify that the following described human food products which consist in part of edible poultry are exempt from classification as a poultry product under Section 81.208 of the Regulations Governing the Inspection of Poultry and Poultry Products under the Poultry Products Inspection Act.
>
> Kind of Product _____
>
> Shipped to _____
>
> Net weight _____ (Date) _____
>
> _____
> (Signature of Shipper)
>
> _____
> (Address of Shipper)

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A DIGEST OF THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TRANSPORTATION OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

I. Definitions:

Poultry means any live or slaughtered domesticated bird (chicken, turkey, duck, goose, or guinea).

Dressed poultry means poultry which has been slaughtered for human food with head, feet, and viscera intact and from which the blood and feathers have been removed.

Poultry product means any ready-to-cook poultry or any poultry food product.

Poultry food product means any human food product consisting of any edible part or parts of poultry in combination with other ingredients unless such human food product is exempted.

Commerce means commerce between any State, Territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, and any place outside thereof; or between points within the same State or the District of Columbia, but through any place outside thereof; or within the District of Columbia.

A. Included in the definitions of slaughtered poultry are:

1. Fresh, frozen, smoked, cured, cut up, disjointed portion of poultry or any edible part thereof, or manufactured poultry products of all kinds.
2. New York dressed poultry.

B. Not included in the definitions are:

1. Products of poultry not intended for use as human food.
2. Edible parts of poultry which are not subject to the Poultry Products Inspection Act.
3. Carcasses and portions of game birds (including pigeons and squabs); and
4. Any specimens of poultry and poultry products sent to or by the Department of Agriculture or branches thereof in Washington, D.C., or elsewhere, for laboratory examination, exhibition purposes, or other official use.

II. Rules Governing Acceptance of Slaughtered Poultry and Poultry Products.

The following products may be accepted for transportation in interstate commerce under the following conditions:

A. Products which have been inspected for wholesomeness by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the shipping containers of which bear the official mark of inspection as shown herein:

B. Dressed poultry which has been processed at an official plant, the shipping containers of which bear the official dressed poultry identification mark as shown below, and which are intended for transportation to:

1. An official plant.
2. A warehouse for storage for the account of the official plant.
3. A foreign country.

DRESSED POULTRY

ELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING

In Official Establishments Under U.S.D.A. Inspection

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C. Dressed poultry and poultry products processed by an exempted producer, the shipping containers of which bear the producer's name and address and the statement "Exempted--P.P.I.A. 85--172."

D. Dressed poultry and poultry products which have been prepared in accordance with recognized religious dietary laws in an official plant and the shipping containers of which are marked "Dressed Poultry or Eviscerated Poultry (whichever is applicable)--Processed under USDA Exemption Permit No. " together with the exemption number.

E. Inspected products which have been removed from the original shipping containers by distributors or jobbers. Provided, That the shipping container is marked with the name and address of the distributor or jobber and bears the statement "The poultry product contained herein was inspected by the U.S.D.A."

F. Those human food products which consist in part of edible parts of poultry but which are not considered poultry products. Provided shipper furnishes. _____
(NAME OF TRANSPORTATION COMPANY)

with certificate shown in "Appendix (a)."

G. Products of poultry not intended for use as human food, provided the containers are marked "Not fit for human food" and bear the packer's name and address and the plant number of the plant where they were packed.

H. Poultry products sold by an individual retail store and shipped directly to the consumer.

I. Imported poultry products provided the shipping containers, or immediate containers are marked "Approved for Import under PPIA" within a circle.

III. Records

A. Transportation agencies shall maintain records showing the name or description of the products transported in interstate or foreign commerce, weight (indicating net or gross), number of shipping containers, date of receipt, name and address of shipper, name and address of consignee, date of arrival at destination, and name of the person accepting products for consignee.

B. When more than one transportation agency is used for any shipment, each such agency shall maintain such records to the extent it is concerned.

C. Transportation agencies shall, upon the request of a duly authorized representative of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, permit him at reasonable times to have access to and to copy all such records.

D. When a transportation agency maintains, subject to inspection, copies of bills of lading, shipping invoices, warehouse receipts, or similar documents which gave the information required above additional records are not required to be kept.

E. Any record required to be maintained shall be maintained for a period of two years after the transaction, which is the subject of such record, has taken place.

APPENDIX

(a) The certification suggested to be prepared by the shipper of edible parts of poultry which are not subject to the Poultry Products Inspection Act is as follows:

I hereby certify that the following described human food products which consists in part of edible poultry are exempt as a poultry product under Section 81.208 of the regulations governing the inspection of poultry and poultry products.

Kind of Product _____

Net weight _____ Date _____

_____
(SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER)

_____
(ADDRESS OF SHIPPER)

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